

502 Statement by the President Urging Citizens To Vote on
Election Day. November 3, 1962

My fellow citizens:

In these difficult days in the life of our country, I know that every American asks what he can do. All of us cannot serve in our Armed Forces or in the Government, but there is one thing that each of us can do, and that is to take part in our democracy, to participate in it, and we can do that on Tuesday, November 6th, which is Election Day.

People all over the world who desire freedom look to the United States. The best

evidence that we can give of how strongly we believe in freedom is by voting on Tuesday, November 6th, for the candidate and the party of our choice. This is the way that we can show how strongly we believe in our country, how strongly we work for it, how strong we want it to be—by voting on Tuesday, November 6th.

NOTE: The statement was recorded for broadcast over radio and television under the auspices of the American Heritage Foundation.

DRAFT FOLLOWS

THEMES FOR GETTING OUT THE VOTE

In these tense and anxious weeks, I know every citizen is asking: what can I do for my country? Not everyone can serve ~~or~~ ⁱⁿ ~~Government~~ or Armed Forces. Comparatively few ~~can~~ ^{can} express their views in the press, ~~or~~ ⁱⁿ petitions ~~or~~ in picket lines.

But on next Tuesday, November 6th, every American has an opportunity to strike a blow for freedom -- to tell the ~~country~~ ^{country} nation and the world how he feels about his ~~Government~~ -- to show those who live in other lands or under other systems that the American people deeply care about democracy.

You can do this by voting on next November 6th -- by making certain that every member of your family, every friend and neighbor, goes to the polls. The eyes of the world are on us this November as never before. At a time when the freedom to ^{in the form of the Un} vote is imperilled, let us demonstrate how much that freedom means to all of us in this country -- and make use of that freedom ^{by} on Tuesday, November 6th.

DRAFT FOLLOWS

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SHORT TV SPOT FOR GETTING OUT THE VOTE

The crisis in Cuba appears to be easing -- but the world-wide crisis continues. The American people, refusing to panic in the face of peril, have once again demonstrated the maturity of their judgment as well as their dedication to freedom. Next Tuesday, November 6th, you have the opportunity to show that good judgment once again -- to show how much you value that freedom. The eyes of the world are on us now as never before -- so let's go to the polls next Tuesday and show the world that the Democratic System is in good health and in good hands.